

NEW SOUTH WALES.

BUSINESS STATISTICS -- DECEMBER, 1942.

C O N T E N T S.

PART I.

PRIMARY & EXPORT INDUSTRIES.

Rural Industries - General: Seasonal Conditions. Potato Supply.
Contract Vegetables programme.

Rural Organisation: C/wealth Ministry of Agriculture. Rural
Reconstruction Commission.

Meat: Swine fever. Mutton dehydration.

Wool: Proposed post-war marketing conference. Shearing
arrangements. Top prices, New York. Country appraisements.

Wheat: Carryover crop estimates. Crop payments.

Dairy Industries: Butter produced, N.S.W. factories, October,
1942. Quotas of butter and cheese for local consumption,
January, 1943. Payment of subsidy. Pay to suppliers of
cream by certain North Coast factories, Nov., 1942.
Fodder conservation plan.

Coal. N.S.W. output, 1942.

PART II.

FINANCE & TRADE.

General: Commonwealth war expenditure. Banking statistics.

Share Prices: Indexes for individual groups, November, 1942.
Industrials, Dec. 1942.

Bond Yields & Mortgage Rates: November, 1942.

Bank Clearings: November, 1942.

Savings Banks & War S. Certs.: Deposits November, 1942, W.S.C.
Sales October, 1942.

Real Estate Sales & Mortgages: November, 1942.

Wholesale Trade: October, 1942.

Retail Trade: October, 1942.

PART III.

INDUSTRIES, ETC.

Employment: Total non-rural, October, 1942. Retail and
wholesale trade, commerce, transport etc., October,
1942. Factory employment, Oct., 1942.

Railways: Operations, October, 1942.

Trams & Buses: Operations, October, 1942.

Motor Vehicles: Registrations, October, 1942.

Buildings Commenced: Metrop. Water Board Area, Nov., 1942.

PART I. PRIMARY & EXPORT INDUSTRIES.

GENERAL.

Seasonal Conditions. Further widespread rains have benefited both agricultural and pastoral areas. Pastoral conditions are generally more favourable than for many seasons and stock feed is very plentiful.

Concern is still being expressed about pests - rabbits, grasshoppers and blow-flies. Caterpillars have been reported on the North Coast.

RURAL ORGANISATION.

The Commonwealth Government has created a Ministry of Agriculture in conjunction with Commerce. The Minister is Mr. Souilly.

A Rural Reconstruction Commission of four members has been appointed by the Minister for Post-War Reconstruction (Mr. Chifley) to submit plans for rural rehabilitation and for re-organisation of primary industries having regard to likely market opportunities in the post-war world.

MEAT.

The Minister for Agriculture anticipates that at least 8,000 pigs will have to be destroyed on account of the swine fever outbreak in the County of Cumberland. Compensation will total approximately £40,000.

Mutton dehydration at the new Bourke plant is expected to commence in a few weeks. Other plants are nearing completion.

FOOD SUPPLY.

Large potato supplies have become available and prices have fallen from the maximum of £17/5/- a ton recorded earlier to a range of £2 to £8 per ton. Approximately 3,000 Contract growers planted 8,000 acres of potatoes. The expected yield from this area was 30,000 tons. In 1941/42 total planting in N.S.W. was 17,700 acres but the yield was only 38,600 tons. Plentiful potato supplies have had a beneficial effect on the vitamin C problem in diets.

A plant to dry vegetables is to be installed shortly at Morpeth, an important growing centre.

Plans are being developed for next season's contract supplies of fresh and processed vegetables for Army use. Increased quantities of carrots, parsnips, beetroot, tomatoes and onions are required for processing but smaller quantities of cabbages, swedes and silver beet which when processed are not attractive to the troops. Much greater quantities of tomatoes are required for canning and for juice.

Members of the Women's Land Army actively engaged in rural industries in N.S.W. number 1,200. Labour used for the cherry harvest is being transferred to gather the prune crop. Girls are also engaged in pea-picking and a further extensive use of females may result from the organisation of vegetable growing.

The price of sulphate of ammonia has been increased by £5/10/- per ton to £18/10/-. This will bring the price up to that of nitrate of soda which is being released for agricultural purposes, and recoup some of the loss on the sale of nitrate of soda which costs more than £18/10/-.

WOOL.

The Minister for Commerce and Agriculture has suggested a conference of Australian, South African and New Zealand woolgrowers to discuss post-war overseas marketing of wool. Woolgrowers in Australia have suggested asking representatives of wool interests in U.S.A. and Britain to attend such a conference. The London "Times" in a leading article, states that the question of Dominion import policy will inevitably crop up.

Since last November the price of tops on the New York futures market has declined and is now approximately 8% below the level when U.S.A. entered the war. Consumption of wool in U.S.A. is still high.

It is estimated that only 70% of the normal labour supply carried out the 1942 shearing of some 120m. sheep. This year the zone system has been extended to South Australia. It still does not apply in Queensland and Western Australia. There have been certain changes in the zones in N.S.W. to take into account special climatic and other factors.

Facilities for wool appraisements in country areas are being prepared. It is expected that at least one centre - Moree - will be available at the beginning of next season.

WHEAT.

Stocks of old season's wheat in Australia are 97.75m. bus. of which 2.75m. bus. have been sold but not delivered. Sales during the year were 78m. bus. (local flour 32.5m., produce trade 14.75m., export wheat 21 m., export flour 9.5m.).

Deliveries to the new season's (1942-43) pool so far are 62.5m. bus. The Chairman of the Wheat Board states that the Australian crop may reach 138m. bus. The yield per acre in the large producing States is high but in N.S.W., and to a lesser extent, in Western Australia, there has been damage by rust and rain and caused much of the grain to sprout. The storage and disposal of this inferior wheat under present day conditions is difficult.

Payments to growers under the quota system are to be made as soon as possible. In cases where quotas require investigation an initial payment of 2/- per bus. may be made but final payments should be complete by March.

DAIRY INDUSTRIES.

Butter output of N.S.W. factories in October, 1942 was 7.5m. lbs., about the same as in October, 1941. As forecast some months ago, production up to October showed little advance over last year but seasonal conditions are now much better and higher production in later months is anticipated.

BUTTER PRODUCED - N.S.W. FACTORIES.

'000,000 lbs.

| Year | Whole Year. | Half-year Jan.-June | June | July | Aug. | Sept. | Oct. |
|------|-------------|---------------------|------|------|------|-------|------|
| 1939 | 120.5 | 62.7 | 7.7 | 6.6 | 6.4 | 7.3 | 10.2 |
| 1940 | 98.4 | 54.3 | 5.1 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 6.5 | 8.0 |
| 1941 | 98.7 | 59.6 | 5.2 | 4.6 | 4.6 | 5.9 | 7.5 |
| 1942 | - | 46.0 | 5.5 | 5.2 | 5.3 | 6.0 | 7.5 |

Pay to suppliers of cream to members of the North Coast Butter Factories Association was $13\frac{1}{4}$ d. per lb. of commercial butter made from July, 1942 to November or approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. above last year. This is exclusive of deferred pay which for the period July Dec. averaged $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. in 1941.

N.S.W. BUTTER - PAY TO CREAM SUPPLIERS.

BY CERTAIN NORTH COAST FACTORIES.

Pence per lb. of commercial butter made.

| Year | Deferred Pay | | July | Aug. | Sept. | Oct. | Nov. |
|---------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | July-Dec. | Jan.-June | | | | | |
| 1934/35 | $\frac{3}{4}$ | $\frac{3}{4}$ | $9\frac{1}{2}$ | 10 | 9 | 8 | $7\frac{1}{2}$ |
| 1938/39 | 5/16 | 1.06 | 14 | 14 | $12\frac{3}{4}$ | 12 | $11\frac{1}{2}$ |
| 1939/40 | $\frac{3}{4}$ | $1\frac{3}{4}$ | $12\frac{1}{2}$ | 12 | $12\frac{1}{4}$ | 12 | $11\frac{3}{4}$ |
| 1940/41 | $\frac{3}{4}$ | 1 | $13\frac{1}{4}$ | 13 | 13 | $12\frac{5}{8}$ | $12\frac{3}{4}$ |
| 1941/42 | $1\frac{1}{2}$ | 1 | $13\frac{1}{4}$ | 13 | $12\frac{7}{8}$ | $12\frac{5}{8}$ | $12\frac{5}{8}$ |
| 1942/43 | - | - | $13\frac{1}{4}$ | $13\frac{1}{4}$ | $13\frac{1}{4}$ | $13\frac{1}{4}$ | $13\frac{1}{4}$ |

/Quotas.....

Quotas of butter and cheese for local consumption in January, 1943 have been fixed at 44% and 42 $\frac{1}{2}$ % respectively. Tables showing earlier months were published in B.S. 1942/8B and B.S. 1942/11B)
11C)

The £2m. subsidy for the dairy industry is to be distributed on a flat rate basis to producers of butter and cheese. Payments shortly will be made through butter factories covering deliveries of milk and cream since July 1, 1942. Calculations of amounts due will be made by the Dairy Produce Equalisation Committee.

An enquiry into milk distribution costs in Sydney is proceeding. Vendors are disputing the claim that zoning of deliveries reduced costs. When zoning was introduced, the retail price of milk was reduced 2d. per gallon.

Agreement has been reached between the N.S.W. and Commonwealth Governments with respect to a fodder assistance scheme. In respect of coastal farmers, advances up to 17/6 a ton will be paid on approved ensilage and assistance will be provided where possible in sinking pits or trench silos.

COAL.

It is estimated by the Minister for Mines that production in N.S.W. last year reached the high level of 12.3m. tons.

PART II. FINANCE & TRADE.

GENERAL.

A review of Commonwealth finances in B.S. 1942/12A indicated that the trend of war expenditure inferred that the Budget estimate (£440m.) would be substantially exceeded. Expenditure on the war in the period July - Dec. 1942 was £253m. During the next six months average monthly expenditure may be expected to exceed that in the period just closed.

In its first year of operation, the War Damage Commission collected approximately £7.25m. from insurance of property valued at some £2,750m.

Banking statistics were shown in tabular form in B.S. 1942/12A. In the Commonwealth Bank special war time deposits of the trading banks by 4th Jan. 1943 had increased £23.2m. from the October 1942 average. Other deposits had increased slightly but holdings of debentures, etc. and Government securities (incl. Treasury Bills) had increased by £28.5m.. Sterling Reserve & London money had risen from £73.3m. to £84.5m. The note issue on 4th Jan., 1943 was £124.1m. or nearly £31m. higher than it was on Jan. 5, 1942.

Trading bank deposits (current account) showed a further expansion of £10m. from Oct. to Nov., 1942. Advances declined £5.9m. and cash items £6.1m.. On the other hand, holdings of Treasury Bills increased by £9.3m., other Government securities £0.8m. and wartime deposits with the Commonwealth Bank £10.2m.

SHARE PRICES.

In four out of the five groups, indexes of share prices compiled by the Government Statistician showed increases in November, 1942. Relatively, the greatest rise was in public utility share prices but the most striking feature, by comparison with a few years ago, is the strongly upward trend of manufacturing and distributing companies' shares. The latter group is the only one in which the index of prices is higher than in March, 1937 and, with the pastoral and finance group, higher than August, 1939. The combined index for 75 companies was in November, 1942, at the same level as a year ago, before Japan entered the war (168), but was still below August, 1939 (174). The index of prices of 34 active shares (184) exceeded November last year and August, 1939 by two points.

Another feature of the market in recent months has been the rise in the index of prices of retailing companies' shares in spite of declining turnover.

The Sydney Stock Exchange Research Bureau's index of industrial share prices (1934=100) was 121.90 on November 30th, 1942 and 124.75 on December 31st. The prices of a very large number of shares have reached the fixed maximum levels.

INDEX OF SHARE PRICES - SYDNEY.

Prices of ordinary shares - excl. banks. Par value = 100.

(Compiled by N.S.W. Govt Statistician).

| Average for Month | Manufacturing & Distributing | Retail | Public Utilities | Pastoral & Finance | Insurance | Total 75 Companies | 34 Active Shares |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|--------|---------------------|--------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 1937 - Mar. | 214 | 204 | 181 | 169 | 281 | 190 (a) | 201 |
| 1939 - Aug. | 213 | 168 | 156 | 118 | 264 | 174 | 182 |
| 1941 - Oct. | 221 | 173 | 142 | 126 | 251 | 172 | 186 |
| - Nov. | 216 | 167 | 142 | 123 | 249 | 168 | 182 |
| 1942 - Jan. | 199 | 154 | 136 | 116 | 236 | 157 | 166 |
| June | 184 | 146 | 117 | 116 | 216 | 147 | 157 |
| Sept. | 213 | 156 | 124 | 126 | 238 | 162 | 179 |
| Oct. | 216 | 159 | 126 | 128 | 242 | 165 | 181 |
| Nov. | 221 | 163 | 131 | 128 | 243 | 168 | 184 |

(a) Highest point recorded.

BOND YIELDS & MORTGAGE RATES.

Bond yields in November, 1942 were slightly lower than in recent months. The strength of the market is illustrated by the over-subscription of the Austerity Loan which brought in £105m. including £82m. of new money, the greatest amount ever raised in one loan operation in Australia. Interest on the new bonds is 3½% for 16 years and 2½% for a 5 years' term.

Government loans raised in 1940 totalled £67m., in 1941 £70m. and in 1942 £168m (excl. conversions). A record number of subscribers - 420,000 - contributed to the last loan.

The Metropolitan Board of Works (Melbourne) experienced the best response to date when it offered to convert a loan of £786,000 into 15 year securities at £3/8/9%.

The average weighted rates of interest on private first mortgages registered in the three months ended November, 1942 were at the same levels (rural securities 4.9%, urban securities 5.4%) as in October.

YIELD ON COMMONWEALTH BONDS & MORTGAGE RATES.

| Period. | COMMONWEALTH BONDS ϕ | | | MORTGAGES. + | |
|-----------|-----------------------------------|----------------------|---|---------------------------------------|--------|
| | Maturing in 5-10 years. | | Maturing in 10 years or more. Taxed at 1930 rates. | Rates of interest on first mortgages. | |
| | Taxed at full Commonwealth Rates. | Taxed at 1930 Rates. | | Rural. | Urban. |
| | % | % | | | |
| 1939 | x | 3.87 | 3.92 | 5.2 | 5.6 |
| 1940 | (9 mths.) 3.15 | 3.25 | 3.30 | 5.1 | 5.6 |
| 1941 | 3.17 | 2.95 | 3.10 | 4.9 | 5.5 |
| 1940-Nov. | 3.18 | 3.02 | 3.11 | 5.1 | 5.5 |
| 1941-Nov. | 3.18 | 2.94 | 3.13 | 4.9 | 5.5 |
| 1942-Jan. | 3.22 | 2.92 | 3.04 | 5.0 | 5.5 |
| June | 3.22 | 2.93 | 3.13 | 4.9 | 5.4 |
| Sept. | 3.22 | 2.67 | 2.86 | 5.0 | 5.3 |
| Oct. | 3.22 | 2.70 | 2.87 | 4.9 | 5.4 |
| Nov. | 3.21 | 2.68 | 2.82 | 4.9 | 5.4 |

- ϕ Last Wednesday in each month: Compiled by Commonwealth Bank.
 + Weighted average rate on private first mortgages registered in three months ended month shown.
 x Not available.

BANK CLEARINGS.

Cheque clearings between Sydney banks in November, 1942 were £105 millions compared with £115m. a month earlier and £99.6m. a year earlier. The index of clearings for November was 135. In making comparisons with previous years, it should be borne in mind that no allowance has been made for rising price levels.

Clearings during the year 1942 in Melbourne slightly exceeded Sydney as a result of war time spending, particularly by Service departments. Usually clearing in Sydney are substantially greater than in Melbourne.

INTER-BANK CLEARINGS - SYDNEY.Excl. Treasury Bill Transactions.

| Year | A M O U N T. | | INDEX NUMBERS (Base:- Av. corresp. period 1926-30= 100). | |
|------|--------------|----------------------------|--|----------------|
| | November. | Eleven months, Jan. - Nov. | Three months end NOVEMBER. | Calendar YEAR. |
| | £m. | £m. | Index | Index. |
| 1938 | 82.7 | 854.3 | 102 | 101 |
| 1939 | 86.1 | 839.6 | 102 | 100 |
| 1940 | 93.5 | 974.7 | 114 | 113 |
| 1941 | 9.6 | 1,034.3 | 124 | 120 |
| 1942 | 105.0 | 1,126.8 | 135 | - |

(The index is adjusted to eliminate the effect of Special Government transactions, as well as Treasury Bills).

SAVINGS..

Savings bank deposits in N.S.W. at the end of November, 1942 were £104,930,000 and in Australia £305,927,000. The increases during the month were - N.S.W., £1,346,000; Aust., £4,476,000 - in each case less than the corresponding increases in October. As in last year, savings deposits were affected by War loan operations.

The increases of savings bank deposits in N.S.W. in the five months ended November, in each of the last three years were:- 1940, £3.0m.; 1941, £3.8m.; 1942, £10.4m.

During November sales of War Savings Certificates in Australia (approx. £784,000) were somewhat below the previous month although sales generally are stimulated by War Loan publicity. Net sales in N.S.W. in October, 1942 were £286,000.

SAVINGS BANKS - N.S.W.

| + | Aug.1939 | Nov.1940 | Oct.1941 | Nov.1941 | Oct.1942 | Nov. 1942 |
|----------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| Amount of Deposits (£000); | 86,957 | 85,106 | 91,314 | 91,499 | 103,583 | 104,930 |
| No. of Accounts ('000); | 1,315 | 1,341 | 1,381 | 1,389 | 1,431 | 1,444 |

SAVINGS - N.S.W.Increase during month:-

| | Sept.1939 | Nov.1940 | Oct.1941 | Nov.1941 | Oct.1942 | Nov.1942. |
|-------------------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| | £000 | £000 | £000 | £000 | £000 | £000 |
| Savings Bank | | | | | | |
| Deposits: (-) 400 | 542 | 579 | 186 | 2,198 | 1,346 | |
| War Savings | | | | | | |
| Certificates: ø | --- | 225 | 149 | 207 | 286 | 286 (a) |
| | (-) 400 | 767 | 728 | 393 | 2,484 | 1,632 |

ø Net purchases (Sales less redemptions).

(-) Denotes decrease.

(a) October, 1942.

REAL ESTATE.

Real estate sales in November, 1942 were £1.94m., the highest figure recorded since April. The amount of mortgages registered in November, 1942 was slightly higher than in the three preceding months.

The value of real estate sales by the five principal Sydney agents showed a decline of 64% from 1941 to 1942.

REAL ESTATE SALES & MORTGAGES - N.S.W.

£ - Thousands.

| Year | S A L E S | | | | M O R T G A G E S. (a) | | | |
|------|-----------------|-------|-------|-------|------------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| | Monthly Average | Sept. | Oct. | Nov. | Monthly Average | Sept. | Oct. | Nov. |
| 1938 | 3,118 | 3,079 | 3,111 | 2,671 | 2,247 | 2,085 | 2,153 | 2,565 |
| 1939 | 2,680 | 2,934 | 2,330 | 2,381 | 1,870 | 1,501 | 1,713 | 1,702 |
| 1940 | 2,588 | 3,149 | 2,885 | 2,430 | 1,375 | 1,240 | 1,144 | 1,259 |
| 1941 | 2,770 | 2,941 | 3,013 | 2,548 | 1,303 | 1,571 | 1,413 | 1,022 |
| 1942 | 1,850* | 1,616 | 1,514 | 1,942 | 677* | 517 | 423 | 530 |

(a) Incl. Renewals.

* Av. ten months Jan. - Oct.

WHOLESALE TRADE.

Sales at wholesale in N.S.W. during October, 1942 were £22.1m. compared with £19.6m. a month earlier and £18.3m. a year earlier. These figures cover taxable and exempt goods. Sales of goods in the second category have been rising, reflecting increased sales to Government departments. With regard to the taxable class, comparison of sales with previous years is difficult due to changes in goods taxed. Rationing and general shortage of supplies are having their effect. Employment in wholesale trade is shown on a later page.

WHOLESALE TRADE, N.S.W.

Sales by traders registered under Sales Tax Acts.

Total, taxable and exempt goods.

| | <u>1938</u> | <u>1939</u> | <u>1940</u> | <u>1941</u> | <u>1942.</u> |
|----------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| Sales - £ million. | | | | | |
| <u>Calendar Year</u> | 193.0 | 200.3 | 202.8 | 229.0 | --- |
| March Qr. | 45.7 | 45.6 | 47.9 | 50.7 | 57.6 |
| June Qr. | 48.7 | 48.1 | 49.8 | 59.6 | 58.8 |
| Sept. Qr. | 49.6 | 55.1 | 53.7 | 59.1 | 59.6 |
| <u>Month of Aug.</u> | 15.3 | 16.8 | 17.2 | 20.4 | 20.9 |
| " " Sept. | 17.5 | 19.4 | 17.5 | 21.6 | 19.6 |
| " " Oct. | 15.7 | 19.2 | 18.5 | 18.3 | 22.1 |

RETAIL TRADE.

Sales at retail by a group of Sydney stores during October, 1942 were 17.3% below last year. Only in August of the six months May - October did sales exceed last year's. The value of stock is declining. Compared with the corresponding month of the previous year the value of stock held was +2.1% in October, 1942, probably indicating a reduced volume when changes in prices are taken into account. The trend of the figures indicates inability to replace stocks. The values of stocks of boots and shoes and men's and boys' wear are much below the previous year and this applies also to hardware, musical instruments and sports and travel goods.

/Employment....

Employment in the reporting Sydney stores in October, 1942 was 15.1% below the previous year.

RETAIL TRADE - SYDNEY.

Percentage increase from corresponding period of the previous year.

| Period | Net Value of Sales. | Value of Stock. | Wages & Salaries Paid. | Number of Employees. |
|----------------|---------------------|-----------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| 1939 | + 2.4 | + 2.0 | + 2.6 | + 0.9 |
| 1940 | + 6.3 | + 17.0 | + 4.0 | + 1.9 |
| 1941 | + 14.6 | + 8.0 | + 9.0 | + 4.0 |
| Sept. Qr.-1941 | + 15.4 | + 10.4 | + 10.9 | + 4.1 |
| " " 1942 | (-) 6.0 | + 11.1 | (-) 10.0 | (-) 13.7 |
| 1942 - Mar. | + 25.9 | + 11.5 | + 4.6 | + 0.6 |
| June | (-) 19.1 | + 10.5 | (-) 1.7 | (-) 10.9 |
| Aug. | + 5.7 | + 13.4 | (-) 8.5 | (-) 12.5 |
| Sept. | (-) 7.0 | + 5.9 | (-) 9.5 | (-) 13.3 |
| Oct. | (-) 17.3 | + 2.1 | (-) 13.0 | (-) 15.1 |

(-) Denotes decrease.

(Supplied by Retail Traders' Association in conjunction with the Commonwealth Bank).

Relaxation of present clothes ration scales is unlikely. Cotton goods are the biggest concern of supply authorities.

There is no change in the tobacco quota for January, 1943. Retailers will receive one-twelfth of their purchases in the year ended September, 1940, reduced by 25%. Special provision is being made for districts affected by population movement.

Further restrictions on imports have been announced. Total prohibitions include dates, mineral waters, sporting guns, etc. Other items have reduced quotas or have been brought under administrative control.

PART III - INDUSTRIES, ETC.

EMPLOYMENT.

Estimated total number of non-rural wage and salary earners employed in N.S.W. (excl. household domestics) in October, 1942 was 764,400. There was an increase of 2,200 over September, viz: an increase of 4,000 in females and a decrease of 1,800 in males. The percentage of females in the defined employment group was 30.2 in October, 1942 compared with 27.4% a year earlier.

Private employers continue to lose male employees to the Services. The number of females employed by Government and semi-government authorities is expanding rapidly.

A survey is being made of man-power requirements in 1943. The Minister for War Organisation of Industry expects a transfer of 200,000 persons to essential work.

To obtain reinforcements for the Services, available men in classes 1, 2 & 3 (18-35 single, 35-45 single, 18-35 married) in non-essential industries are being called-up and an intensive examination of men in these groups working in protected establishments is being made. It is likely that the call-up will be extended beyond 40 years in Class 4 (married 35-45).

NEW SOUTH WALES.

ESTIMATED TOTAL NON-RURAL WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS EMPLOYED (EXCL. HOUSEHOLD DOMESTIC)
(Includes Civil Constructional Corps).

| End of Month. | MALES | | | FEMALES | | | TOTAL. | | |
|---------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-------|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-------|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-------|
| | Government (C/wealth, State & Local). | Private Employers | Total | Government (C/wealth, State & Local). | Private Employers | Total | Government (C/wealth, State & Local). | Private Employers | Total |
| | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 | '000 |
| 1939-July | 136.5 | 399.1 | 535.6 | 19.4 | 141.3 | 160.7 | 155.9 | 540.4 | 696.3 |
| 1941-July | 141.5 | 419.5 | 561.0 | 21.7 | 186.8 | 208.5 | 163.2 | 606.3 | 769.5 |
| Sept. | 143.4 | 426.7 | 570.1 | 22.3 | 189.8 | 212.1 | 165.7 | 616.5 | 782.2 |
| Oct. | 143.7 | 425.4 | 569.1 | 22.7 | 192.1 | 214.8 | 166.4 | 617.5 | 783.9 |
| Nov. | 144.3 | 425.1 | 569.4 | 23.0 | 194.8 | 217.8 | 167.3 | 619.9 | 787.2 |
| 1942-Mar. | 148.9 | 405.3 | 554.2 | 25.0 | 197.1 | 222.1 | 173.9 | 602.4 | 776.3 |
| July | 154.8 | 384.3 | 539.1 | 28.1 | 197.0 | 225.1 | 182.9 | 581.3 | 764.2 |
| Aug. | 154.6 | 383.0 | 537.6 | 28.8 | 197.4 | 226.2 | 183.4 | 580.4 | 763.8 |
| Sept. | 153.3 | 381.9 | 535.2 | 30.1 | 196.9 | 227.0 | 183.4 | 578.8 | 762.2 |
| Oct. | 153.6 | 379.8 | 533.4 | 31.7 | 199.3 | 231.0 | 185.3 | 579.1 | 764.4 |

(Excludes persons on military leave but includes Civil Constructional Corps)

In a statement on 7th January, Mr. Curtin said: "There can be no doubt that the existing programme for the expansion of the Services and of defence production demand for their fulfilment an intensification rather than a slackening of the restrictive policy pursued in the past" ... "During the forthcoming months it will be necessary further to restrict the volume of goods available to the civilian population."

The trend of employment in N.S.W. in certain broad industrial classifications is shown below. The numbers shown do not represent the total wage and salary earners employed in the industries. Manufacturing employment is shown in another table.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

EMPLOYMENT OF WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS AS RECORDED BY EMPLOYERSON PAY ROLL TAX RETURNS.

(Thousands).

| Last Day in Month. | Employees recorded by employers whose principal activity is: | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--|-----|------------------------------------|-----|----------------------------------|-----|------------------|------|--------------------|------|--------------------------------------|------|---|------|
| | Mining & Quarrying. | | Building & Constr- uction(a) | | Transport (excl. shipping) | | Retail Trade. | | Wholesale Trade | | Other Commerce & Finance(b) | | Personal Service (excl. household domestics). (c) | |
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| July | 21.7 | 0.1 | 20.5 | 0.5 | 60.7 | 2.7 | 31.9 | 31.8 | 29.1 | 10.0 | 20.9 | 9.8 | 16.3 | 20.3 |
| Sept. | 21.8 | 0.2 | 20.4 | 0.5 | 61.5 | 2.8 | 31.8 | 31.6 | 29.2 | 10.6 | 22.2 | 10.0 | 16.8 | 21.1 |
| Oct. | 21.5 | 0.2 | 19.5 | 0.5 | 62.0 | 2.9 | 31.5 | 32.3 | 29.6 | 10.9 | 22.4 | 10.2 | 16.8 | 21.4 |
| Nov. | 21.7 | 0.2 | 19.3 | 0.5 | 62.0 | 3.0 | 32.1 | 33.8 | 29.3 | 11.1 | 21.6 | 10.5 | 16.7 | 21.5 |
| 2-Mar. | 21.2 | 0.2 | 19.9 | 0.5 | 62.3 | 3.3 | 28.5 | 33.1 | 27.6 | 10.0 | 18.4 | 11.3 | 15.1 | 21.5 |
| June | 21.1 | 0.2 | 18.2 | 0.5 | 62.4 | 3.4 | 25.6 | 32.6 | 25.4 | 11.2 | 17.4 | 11.6 | 13.5 | 21.4 |
| Aug. | 21.2 | 0.2 | 16.5 | 0.5 | 62.7 | 3.6 | 24.4 | 31.9 | 25.0 | 11.4 | 16.9 | 11.7 | 13.0 | 21.6 |
| Sept. | 21.1 | 0.2 | 15.5 | 0.5 | 62.8 | 3.6 | 24.0 | 31.6 | 25.6 | 11.6 | 17.1 | 11.7 | 12.7 | 21.5 |
| Oct. | 21.2 | 0.2 | 15.5 | 0.5 | 62.8 | 3.8 | 23.6 | 31.8 | 24.9 | 11.5 | 17.3 | 11.7 | 12.7 | 21.7 |

Pay-Roll Tax returns are submitted by all employers (except C/wealth Govt., Charities etc.) whose pay-roll exceeds £20 per wk.

(a) Excl. large numbers employed on Construction by Govt. authorities.

(b) Incl. wool and produce brokers, banks, insurance and commerce n.e.i.

(c) Incl. hotels, restaurants, entertainment, professional and personal service.

FACTORY EMPLOYMENT.

The estimated number of persons employed in factories in N.S.W. (incl. working proprietors) was 300,400 in October, 1942. The net increase during the month was 1,400; males decreased by 400 and females increased by 1,800.

The chief upward movements were in the metal industries (+800 employees), food drink and tobacco (+700), miscellaneous factories (+200). Employment was less in October than in September, 1942 in bricks, pottery and glass, clothing and wood-working. Paper and printing and textiles showed little change.

N.S.W. - FACTORY EMPLOYMENT.

(Including Working Proprietors).

| Period | NO. OF EMPLOYEES (Thousands) | | | | | | | | | Index Numbers (1938/39 = 100) | | |
|------------|------------------------------|------|-------|----------|------|-------|----------|------|-------|----------------------------------|----------|----------|
| | 1938/39 | | | 1941/42* | | | 1942/43* | | | 1940/41 | 1941/42* | 1942/43* |
| | M. | F. | T. | M. | F. | T. | M. | F. | T. | | | |
| | 166.2 | 61.1 | 227.3 | 210.8 | 76.5 | 287.3 | 214.3 | 83.3 | 297.6 | 110 | 126 | 130 |
| | 166.3 | 61.8 | 228.1 | 214.9 | 77.1 | 292.0 | 214.7 | 84.3 | 299.0 | 111 | 128 | 131 |
| | 166.5 | 62.3 | 228.8 | 215.3 | 77.9 | 293.1 | 214.3 | 86.1 | 300.4 | 113 | 128 | 131 |
| | 166.2 | 62.2 | 228.4 | 215.5 | 78.1 | 293.6 | | | | 116 | 128 | |
| | 167.0 | 62.0 | 229.0 | 215.8 | 80.8 | 296.6 | | | | 121 | 130 | |
| | 166.9 | 60.4 | 227.3 | 214.4 | 81.3 | 295.7 | | | | 123 | 129 | |
| Whole Year | 167.2 | 61.6 | 228.8 | 214.5 | 78.7 | 293.2 | - | - | - | 116 | 128 | |

* Subject to revision.

The trend of factory employment in Australia is shown in the following figure which were released recently:-

AUSTRALIA - FACTORY EMPLOYMENT.

(Thousands).

| | <u>GOVT. (a)</u> | <u>OTHER.</u> | <u>TOTAL.</u> |
|---------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1938/39 Av. | 10.1 | 532.1 | 542.2 |
| 1939/40 Av. | 16.9 | 547.0 | 563.9 |
| 1940/41 Av. | 41.5 | 586.4 | 627.9 |
| 1941/42 Av. * | 79.8 | 614.7 | 694.5 |
| July, 1942 * | 109.3 | 595.7 | 705.0 |
| Sept, 1942 * | 113.1 | 593.7 | 706.8 |
| Oct., 1942 * | 114.8 | - | - |

* Subject to revision.

(a) Includes annexes attached to private factories and certain private aircraft and shipbuilding establishments engaged wholly on Government work.

The INDEX OF CONSUMPTION OF GAS & ELECTRICITY (Sydney) was 163 for November, 1942. This was 2 points below the previous month but 11 points above November, 1941.

| <u>INDEX OF GAS & ELECTRICITY</u> | <u>Av. 1939</u> | <u>Av. 1941</u> | <u>Nov. 1941</u> | <u>Nov. 1942.</u> |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|
| <u>CONSUMPTION.</u> (Av. 1929-31 = 100) | 131 | 148 | 152 | 163 |

The gas supply was restricted in the greater part of Sydney for a short period during November, 1942, owing to industrial dissension.

GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

A high level of earnings and working surplus is shown in the Government railway operating results for October, 1942 and the first four months of the financial year. Passenger and goods traffic are at high levels.

N.S.W. GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

| Year | <u>MONTH OF OCTOBER.</u> | | | | <u>FOUR MONTHS ENDED OCTOBER.</u> | | | |
|------|------------------------------|----------|--|--------------------|-----------------------------------|----------|--|---------------------|
| | Tonnage of Goods & Livestock | Earnings | Excess of Earnings over Working Expenses | Passenger Journeys | Tonnage of goods & Livestock | Earnings | Excess of Earnings over Working Expenses | Passenger Journeys. |
| | '000 | £'000 | £'000 | Mill. | '000 | £'000 | £'000 | Mill. |
| 1939 | 1,405 | 1,805 | 618 | 15.8 | 5,751 | 6,875 | 2,159 | 59.7 |
| 1940 | 1,644 | 2,084 | 791 | 16.2 | 6,808 | 8,142 | 3,192 | 62.6 |
| 1941 | 1,667 | 2,324 | 813 | 18.1 | 6,022 | 8,627 | 2,843 | 70.5 |
| 1942 | 1,729* | 2,997 | 1,177 | 19.3 | 6,804 | 11,713 | 3,922 | 76.3 |

Ø Excluding interest, sinking fund, exchange etc.
Interest chargeable in 1941-42 was £5,389,116 and sinking fund, exchange etc. was £1,180,757.

* Partly estimated.

GOVT. TRAMS & OMNIBUSES.

During the month of October, 1942 passenger journeys in trams and omnibuses in the Sydney metropolitan area were 37.1m. compared with 38.9m. in October last year. Nevertheless traffic is at a high level. Passengers carried in the four months - July - Oct., exceeded the 1939 figure by 34 millions or 30%. Higher earnings have been more than absorbed by increased working expenses.

Omnibus-miles run in the metropolitan area have been reduced, the reduction in October compared with last year was 9.2%. In the Newcastle area, Governmental omnibus-miles increased 36% in the same period. The overall reduction was 4.3%.

N.S.W. GOVERNMENT TRAMS & OMNIBUSES -SYDNEY AND NEWCASTLE.

| Year | MONTH OF OCTOBER. | | | | FOUR MONTHS ENDED OCTOBER. | | | |
|------|-------------------|-----------------------|---|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|---|-------------------------|
| | Earnings | Working Expenses £ | Excess of Earnings over Working Expenses £ | Passenger Journeys. A ^o | Earnings | Working Expenses £ | Excess of Earnings over Working Expenses £ | Passenger Journeys ø |
| | £000 | £000 | £000 | Million | £000 | £000 | £000 | Million. |
| 1939 | 368 | 310 | 58 | 31.2 | 1,428 | 1,235 | 193 | 122 |
| 1940 | 400 | 341 | 59 | 34.2 | 1,504 | 1,254 | 250 | 129 |
| 1941 | 469 | 382 | 87 | 41.6 | 1,762 | 1,459 | 303 | 156 |
| 1942 | 454 | 403 | 51 | 40.3 | 1,823 | 1,624 | 199 | 160 |

* Exclusive of interest, sinking fund, exchange and current depreciation (£605,000 in 1941/42).

ø Excl. Sydney Harbour Bridge section trips.

MOTOR VEHICLES.

Although the trend of motor vehicle registrations has been downward, there was an increase of 500 in the number registered at the end of November, 1942 over total registrations at 30th October. The decline in registrations during the war has been relatively greatest in respect of motor cycles.

N.S.W. MOTOR VEHICLES ON REGISTER & NEW REGISTRATIONS.

| Number registered - | Aug. 1939 | Nov. 1941 | Sept. 1942 | Oct. 1942 | Nov. 1942. |
|-------------------------------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|
| Cars ('000) | 216.6 | 190.7 | 170.3 | 170.3 | 170.8 |
| Lorries ('000) | 77.6 | 75.3 | 70.8 | 70.7 | 70.9 |
| Cycles ('000) | 24.0 | 19.3 | 15.0 | 14.9 | 14.8 |
| Total ('000) (incl. other) | 329.2 | 297.7 | 267.3 | 267.1 | 267.6 |

New Vehicles Registered -Av. Weekly Number:

| | | | | | |
|-------------------|-----|----|----|----|----|
| Cars and Cabs. | 322 | 43 | 16 | 21 | 18 |
| Lorries and Vans. | 146 | 52 | 7 | 4 | 5 |

BUILDINGS COMMENCED.

Only 22 houses were commenced in the Metropolitan Water Board Area in November, 1942 compared with 634 a year earlier. Nearly all construction consists of "business premises" which include factories.

BUILDINGS COMMENCED -- METROPOLITAN WATER BOARD AREA.

| Period | Dwelling Houses (excl. Flats.) No. | VALUE OF BUILDINGS COMMENCED - £'000 | | | | | | |
|-----------|--|--------------------------------------|--------|-----------------------------|-------|------------|---------|--------|
| | | Dwelling Houses. | Flats. | Business Premises (a) | Miso. | T O T A L. | | |
| | | | | | | City | Suburbs | Total. |
| 1938 | 7,457 | 6,001 | 2,481 | 3,496 | 564 | 2,007 | 10,535 | 12,542 |
| 1939 | 7,341 | 5,967 | 1,855 | 3,130 | 955 | 1,800 | 10,107 | 11,907 |
| 1940 | 7,161 | 6,157 | 2,341 | 2,795 | 1,581 | 1,545 | 11,329 | 12,874 |
| 1941 | 7,177 | 6,556 | 2,450 | 1,738 | 1,074 | 706 | 11,112 | 11,818 |
| 1941-Nov. | 634 | 547 | 162 | 83 | 31 | 26 | 797 | 823 |
| 1942-Jan. | 334 | 294 | 57 | 66 | 99 | 13 | 503 | 516 |
| June | 30 | 19 | - | 775 | 48 | 81 | 761 | 842 |
| Sept. | 31 | 142 | 8 | 149 | 72 | 14 | 357 | 371 |
| Oct. | 19 | 16 | - | 131 | 94 | 16 | 225 | 241 |
| Nov. | 22 | 11 | 2 | 171 | 10 | 39 | 155 | 194 |

(a) Includes factories.